

SONG OF HARMONY

(From SWASTYAYANAM, a Hindu scripture by Saint
Guhacharya)

Truth is the only manifestation of God
One (instance of) devotion is as good as the other
All rivers head for the same ocean
All paths lead to the same destination.

Same is the Lord for all
May His names differ
May his aspects vary
It is only Him who responds to all prayers.

People have different parents
They have different names
They eat different foods
They are born in different places
They wear different dresses
Naturally they have different Gods too.

Live as a worthy son of your Father
Your friend's dad is great to him
Like your own dad to you
Your friend's faith is holy to him
Like your own faith to you.

Honor others' Gods
Worship your own
Bow to others' scriptures
But practice your own.

Partake of others' offerings
Distribute your own
Don't argue to change someone
Strive to change yourself.

You can not show light to others
before you were able to see it yourself
You can not preach to others

Unless you were chosen by God.

God and *samskaara*, but not humans, decide
Who be born in which tradition
Who observes which convention
Whose salvation which way.

Whatever is their devotion
All are sons of *Prajapati*
Don't hate others
For hateful worship leads to hell.

Worshiping a God and
criticizing another means
Kneeling to one foot and
Chopping off the other.

Humans are not eternal
Nor are their loves and hatreds
God is eternal and
Knowledge is permanent.

Mind is greater than books
Its power lies within
First off, purify it
Which is the essence of all devotion.

(TRANSLATED BY : Anonymous)